

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/669,110

Examiner

F. L. Evans

Applicant(s)

PETERSON ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the papers filed on March 15, 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-11 and 21-25.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 031507
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR § 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR § 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR § 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on March 15, 2007 has been entered.

The Drawings

The drawings filed on February 12, 2004 are acceptable.

The Information Disclosure Statement

The prior art cited in the information disclosure statement filed on March 15, 2007 has been considered.

Additional Prior Art

Camerini Porzi (US 4,849,625) and Malinen (US 6,075,595) disclose the temperature control of light emitting elements of colorimeters/spectrometers. See lines 25-37 in column 2 of Porzi and lines 44-51 in column 6 of Malinen.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-11 and 21-25 are allowed over the prior art of record.

Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As to independent claim 1, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious a color measurement instrument comprising control means responsive to the temperature sensing means for controlling said temperature changing element such that the temperature of the illuminator means is maintained substantially equal to a target temperature that is greater than an

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operational ambient temperature range of the instrument, in combination with the rest of the limitations of the claim.

As to independent claim 5, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious a color measurement instrument comprising control means for controlling a temperature of the illuminator such that the temperature is maintained substantially equal to a target temperature that is **greater than an operational ambient temperature range of the instrument**, in combination with the rest of the limitations of the claim.

As to independent claim 9, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious a method of measuring color comprising the step of controlling a heating element in thermal communication with the base such that a temperature of the at least one illuminator is maintained substantially equal to a target temperature that is **greater than an operational ambient temperature range of the instrument** to enhance the uniformity of at least one output characteristic, in combination with the rest of the limitations of the claim.

As to independent claim 21, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious a color measurement instrument comprising a temperature controller coupled to the temperature sensor and the heating element to maintain a temperature of the illuminator substantially equal to a target temperature that is **greater than an operational ambient temperature range of the instrument**, in combination with the rest of the limitations of the claim.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

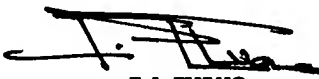
Fax/Telephone Numbers

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to the examiner whose telephone number is (571) 272-2414.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gregory J. Toatley, Jr. can be reached on (571) 272-2800 ext 77. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



F. L. EVANS
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 2877

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March 27, 2007